

AFRICAN JOURNAL OF GEOINFORMATION (AJG)

THE NEW OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE
AFRICAN ASSOCIATION FOR THE REMOTE SENSING OF THE ENVIRONMENT
(AARSE)

FINAL CALL FOR PAPERS FOR THE MAIDEN ISSUE

The new African Journal of Geoinformation (AJG) will be the official journal of the African Association of the Remote Sensing of the Environment (AARSE). The purpose of the journal is to stimulate debate on the development of ideas, methods and techniques in Geoinformation and related disciplines; and to discuss how these techniques are being used for the benefit of humankind. The maiden issue of the journal will be in October 2004, and thereafter the journal will be published in one volume with two issues per year in March and October. Manuscripts reaching the editors by July 30, 2004, peer reviewed, and re-submitted by August 30, 2004 will be considered for publication in the maiden issue.

The Editors of AJG welcome submissions of manuscripts that contribute to the scientific knowledge that is generally of interest to researchers, professionals and other practitioners interested in any field related to Geoinformation. They particularly welcome submissions of broad scientific interest; manuscripts of an interdisciplinary nature; and theoretical and conceptual papers with innovative applications. While all submissions in any field of Geoinformation will be considered for publication, those that relate to prevalent problems in Africa and attempts to use Geoinformation to overcome them will be given priority. The maiden issue will be published just before AARSE's bi-annual conference in Nairobi, October 8-12, 2004 (<http://www.itc.nl/~aarse/aace/>) whose theme will be "Geo-Information Sciences in Support of Africa's Development". Manuscripts submitted related to this theme will be particularly welcome. Submissions might be in the form of completed research papers, brief commentaries, or book reviews.

Submission of any manuscript is taken to imply that the manuscript submitted is original and that it is not being considered elsewhere for publication.

All submissions will be anonymously reviewed by at least three reviewers. To facilitate publication of high quality articles, the AJG has an Editorial Board of eminent scientists in the field of Geoinformation who review manuscripts in their areas of specialization. Other scientists outside the Editorial Board are also requested to assist in reviewing articles from time to time.

Submission is a representation that the manuscript has not been published previously and is not currently under consideration for publication elsewhere.

The Editor-in-Chief, *African Journal of Geoinformation*
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A Guide to Preparing Manuscripts for the AJG

1. Introduction

Authors are advised to consult these instructions as the only full version. Abbreviated instructions will appear in each issue of the AJG. Once publications of the journal start, authors may get more visual information by following the format of the published articles, except for spacing which should be double in submitted manuscripts.

The Editors of AJG expect to receive manuscripts of high quality. Poor submissions will be returned to the authors without review. The author must state that the paper submitted is original and has not been, is not being, and, until the review process of the AJG is completed, will not be submitted for publication elsewhere.

2. Paper length

A manuscript presented for a paper article should normally be between 6000-8000 words including all tables, figures and references. Short discussions of less than 3000 words may be submitted as a **Research Note**. Editors will also welcome short comments on papers published in earlier issues under the title **Debate**. **Book Reviews** should be about 1000 words. For the last of these, authors may send in a review of any book on geoinformation, but preference in selecting reviews to publish will be given to those which have direct relevance to African problems.

3. Structure of the paper

The paper should have the following structure

- Title page, (with the text center justified) to include the Title of the paper, author(s) names and affiliations (list multiple affiliations one below the other) and mark each with a superscript "a", "b", etc.). – In addition the name of the corresponding author, in a case where there are more than one author, should be marked with an asterisk superscript (*). A footnote should then be given on this page as " * Corresponding author: E-mail: mukasa@att.com; Tel.:; Fax:"
- Abstract page (at least 200 words) with 4-6 keywords
- Introduction (including motivation, aims, overview, and references to related works
- Main body (explanation of methods, algorithms, data used, results and their critical discussion
- Conclusions
- Acknowledgements
- Appendices
- References
- Glossary

4. General format

- The paper should be one column. Leave on all sides a 2.5 cm margin and use 12 pts font, Roman Times or Helvetica throughout the manuscript (including

Tables and Figures). Double spacing should be used throughout the manuscripts (including Tables) The text should not be hyphenated. Pages should be numbered at the bottom center. Metric (S.I.) units should be used. Use units instead of words, e.g. "10 m" instead of "meter(s)" with a free space between numbers and units. Do not abbreviate units (e.g. no "pi" or "pels" instead of "pixel(s)"). Also present units as 1% and 4%, not 1 and 4 %, or 2 mm to 5 mm, not 2 to 5 mm, or 3 km x 3 km, not 3 x 3 km. No title should be in capital letters. In paper and section/subsection titles only the first letter should be capital. All text, with the exception of text on the Title Page (which should be centered), should be justified. To highlight something in text use italics, never bold. Bold can be used, however, in equations or with symbols in the text.

Do not use bullets. Instead use numbering as (1) (2) etc. and treat each numbered item as a new paragraph. Sections and subsections can be numbered up to 3 decimal figures, e.g. 3.3.2.1. All section and subsection numbers should be followed by a period (.), e.g. "4.1. Analysis of the results"

Quote sections in text as Section 4.2 etc., without a (.) after the last number. Check that the numbering of the sections is correct. Abstract, Keywords, Acknowledgements and References should not be numbered. Only main sections titles and paper title should be in bold. All subsections titles and "Keywords:" should be in italics.

Do not leave one empty line between paragraphs. Indent paragraphs by 0.4 cm. In the references do not indent the first line, but all remaining ones of each reference by 0.3 cm.

Footnotes should only be used, if absolutely essential. If used, footnotes should be numbered consecutively throughout the manuscript, indicated by superscript arabic numbers, and kept as short as possible.

5. *Presentation, language*

The paper should be in English. Papers in French or German are discouraged and require special permission from the editor.

The text must be well structured and understandable. English should be grammatically correct. If your English is poor, ask the help of colleagues with good knowledge in English. Set the language paper to UK English and use a spelling-checker to correct errors.

6. *Figures and Tables*

All figures should be of good quality (sharp, good contrast) with letter size large enough to be clear if reduction is necessary before printing. Figures should be laser prints (at least 400 dpi printer) or for images, original glossy prints. Bar scales must be used and all maps must have north and latitude and longitude indicated.

In formatting Tables, do not separate columns with vertical lines but with extra space between the columns. Number figures and Tables sequentially, each on a different page “Table 1” etc.

Each figure and table should have a brief and clear title. Put all figure titles on one page, (marked “Captions for Figure), and all table titles on another page (marked “Captions for Figures”). Indicate in the main text of the paper the position where each figure and table should be placed (ideally directly after the first position in text where they are quoted).

7. *Colour*

Colour figures cannot be printed in the journal at this time

8 *References*

In selecting references to quote, give preference to those which are easily accessible to many readers. All references must be quoted in the text and those quoted in the text must appear in the references list. The letter font in the reference should be regular. Do not use bold italics. Only the first letter of the title should be capital. Give the full information for a reference as follows::

Quote references in text as: (a) ..has been extensively studied (Woldai, 2001; Adeyemi, 2002, p.23; or (b) as reported in Otim (1999)List multiple references in parentheses in chronological, not alphabetical order, e.g. (AbaNyanba, 1998; Omalanga, 2001; PapaEwusi, 2002; Zikusooka, 2003). Use et al. for more than two 2 authors e.g. Nnabinene et al., 2004)

In the References:

The references should be listed in alphabetical order. Examples:

Munene, J., 1998a

Munene, J., 1998b

Munene, J., Smith, W, and Chou, D., 1997.

All author names should be listed in the reference list (up to 20 names ; for more than 20, use only the first author name and then et al.).

For journals quote as in the example: ... Journal of Geodesy 20(2), 112-120.

Journal names should not be abbreviated.

For proceedings of conferences quote as in the example:

Chanda, M.W., 1998. Caring about the environment or personal survival? Mapping neighbourhood differences in attitudes towards environmental quality in Gaborone. Proc. Int. Conf. Permafrost, 3-4 June, Hakodate, Japan, 18-23.

For books give the edition if applicable: For example: Gavin, E, and Gymfi-Aidoo, J. 2004. Environmental information systems development in sub-Saharan Africa. Bosala Books, Johannesburg, 3rd Edition.

For URL sites, add, at the end " accessed date, where date is the last date that the site was accessed by you, e.g. June 9, 1999. As author give either the author(s) name, if the site has a publication, followed by the publication title, or the title of the page (e.g. product name).

For edited books,, edited proceedings etc list references as: "In: Mutendaggulu, S. (Ed.) 2001. The declining importance of Lake Malawi, V. Vol. 3, 38-49." For proceedings and books quote as:In: Kyaka, B.R. Wilson R., (Eds).....

9. *Paper submission*

Send 3 good quality hardcopies by fast mail (airmail or courier if you wish), or the electronic form (as described below) of the paper. Electronic submissions are preferred because they reduce the time between submission and publication. In the latter case send your paper in A4 format as RTF, Word 97 or Word 2000 file. Files may be compressed by zip. Send hardcopy manuscripts to:

The Editor-in-Chief, *African Journal of Geoinformation*
c/o Department of Environmental Science
University of Botswana
Private Bag 00704
Gaborone, Botswana.

Electronic submissions should be sent to
musisin@mopipi.ub.bw

10. *Submission of revised manuscripts*

Normally, a manuscript will be returned to the author(s) with comments from the referees. The author(s) will be expected to return revised manuscripts where appropriate to the Editor-in Chief within the shortest possible time. They should submit two high quality hardcopies AND the electronic files on a DOS-formatted 1.4 MByte high density diskette(s) or a CD. The electronic files should include one file with all paper information. If the file (after compression, if necessary) is too large or if the quality of the figures, in the view of the author(s) is better with individually delivered files, then the authors can deliver one file for each figure (in straight TIFF, not tiled, not JPEG-compressed etc.) or other common formats like GIF, JPEG etc.)..

11. *Paper proofs, reprints and copyrights*

One set of page proofs will be sent to the corresponding author to be checked for typesetting/editing. The author is not expected to make changes or corrections that constitute departures from the article that was accepted by the editor. Proofs should be returned within 3 days, preferably by fax.

Concerning copyrights, upon acceptance of an article by the journal, the author(s) will be asked to transfer the copyright of the article to the publisher. This transfer will ensure the widest possible dissemination of information. The author is responsible for obtaining permission to use any copyrighted material or any rights of any company or institute etc which may have copyrights to materials used in writing the manuscript. Once the paper has been prepared in publication format by the publisher, the permission of the publisher is required for any use of the paper.

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